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SUBJECT Jai Prakash Narain Speaks on Socialist Party Program

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SUPPLEMENT

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1. Jai Prakash Narain, Indian Socialist Leader, said here that "The Democratic Socialism which I represent is diametrically opposed to totalitarian Communism we see around us at present."
2. He added that his party could have nothing to do "with Indian Communists, who stabbed us in the back during the 1942 struggle, who support the League claim for Pakistan just to spite the Congress, and who delight in fomenting trouble for the fun of mischief and for the purpose of thriving in a diseased body politic."
3. Jai Prakash explained the decision of the Socialist Party Conference in Cawnpore to drop the word "Congress" and merely call itself "the Socialist Party of India", by saying that "anyone with Socialist ideals is now free to join the Party, be he a member of Congress or the League or a Hindu Mahasabhaite, and secondly, it gives us freedom to act on Socialistic principles without embarrassing the Congress and without being bound by its party discipline."
4. Jai Prakash, whom Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had appointed to the Congress Working Committee, resigned in the beginning of the year, though his resignation was not accepted until two months later.
5. The Socialist leader emphasized that his getting away from the Congress was not to fight it. "Congress blood runs in our veins and to fight that great national organization at this critical juncture in the nation's history would be suicidal and playing the game of the imperialist. We will do nothing by act or word to embarrass the Congress or its leaders till at least the common enemy, the British, is gotten out of the country."
6. Jai Prakash declared, with a smile, "when India is free and if the official Congress shows a tendency under capitalistic influence to turn into National Socialism as happened in Germany under Hitler, then the Socialist Party would have to settle accounts with it."
7. Referring to the spread of Communist influence in labor and peasant organizations in certain parts of the country, Jai Prakash said that the only way to defeat it was by the newly-formed Socialist Party setting up organizations in "every nook and corner of the country, in every one of the 700,000 villages in India and in every labor camp."

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8. "Our immediate task is organization, organization in every center of reaction, especially in every one of the 592 Indian States ruled by Princes where the last battle against obscurantism will have to be fought."
9. Jai Prakash explained the four-fold program of his party:
 - a) Preach to every Indian that he is the son of the soil, irrespective of the community to which he might belong.
 - b) Instill in the heart of every Muslim that Pakistan would be more dangerous to him than even to the Hindu and that balkanization of India is an imperialist game.
 - c) Start a campaign in the Hindu majority Pakistan areas of western Bengal and eastern Punjab with a view to organizing opposition to Pakistan and thinning the League claims to such an extent that they will not demand division of India.
 - d) To bring home to the common man in the street that his future lies in organizing himself and in fighting for his rights against the Indian capitalists.
10. Jai Prakash did not visualize any violence in achieving Socialist principles. "If the right kind of leaders lead the country, especially during the first few years of her independent existence, revolutionary evolution could be wrought without shedding a single drop of blood," he declared, and added that "if the vested interests itch for a fight, the have-nots should not grudge it."

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